

President's Report – January 2026

Welcome Back - It is Spring 2026 at SUNY Oneonta University!

As we begin the new year, the Oneonta Chapter of United University Professions extends a warm and sincere welcome to all returning and newly joined members. The Spring 2026 semester is well underway, and our campus is once again filled with the energy, dedication, and intellectual spirit that define our SUNY community. This semester offers renewed opportunities for collective action, advocacy, and solidarity, and we look forward to continuing our work on behalf of our members with purpose and determination.

In response to member feedback, Oneonta UUP is launching a new chapter newsletter designed to streamline communication about union events, benefits, and key updates. Members expressed a clear desire for a more unified and accessible approach to receiving information, and we are proud to deliver a format that reflects those priorities. With the support and hard work of our Communications Committee, we are moving toward a more efficient and member-centered communication system. The newsletter will also serve as a tool for event promotion and RSVP collection, particularly when Lunch is provided, ensuring that our gatherings remain well-organized and welcoming.

As always, UUP remains committed to protecting the rights, working conditions, and professional well-being of our members. We encourage everyone to stay engaged, participate in upcoming events, and continue strengthening the collective voice that makes our union so effective. We look forward to seeing you throughout the semester and to building another year of meaningful progress together.

A Tribute in Memory of Richard F. Tyler

As Chapter President of Oneonta UUP, I had the privilege of presenting Richard Tyler with a Certificate of Appreciation at our UUP Oneonta Holiday Celebration, recognizing his many years of dedicated service as our Chapter Treasurer. None of us could have imagined that only weeks later, on January 5, 2026, Richard would suddenly and unexpectedly pass away. His loss leaves an immeasurable void in our community and in the hearts of all who had the honor of knowing him.

Richard devoted his time, energy, and expertise to countless community organizations throughout his life. His commitment to service was not something he spoke about, it was something he lived every day. In the Oneonta UUP Chapter, Richard distinguished himself not only as our Treasurer but also as a dedicated and unwavering delegate to United University Professions for an exceptional 40 years of service. His dedication to United University Professionals was unmatched, and his steady presence provided guidance, continuity, and strength to so many of us across generations of union leadership.

On a personal level, I feel profoundly grateful to have learned from Richard. His deep understanding of our union and the constitution that shapes our work was invaluable, and he shared that knowledge with patience and generosity. His kindness, encouragement, and unwavering support left a lasting impression on me, as I know they did on countless others.

Richard was far more than a colleague. He was a friend, a mentor, and a true champion of fairness, solidarity, and unity. His legacy will continue to live on in the work we carry forward, in the values he embodied, and in the many lives he touched. Yet his absence will be deeply and sincerely felt.